

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

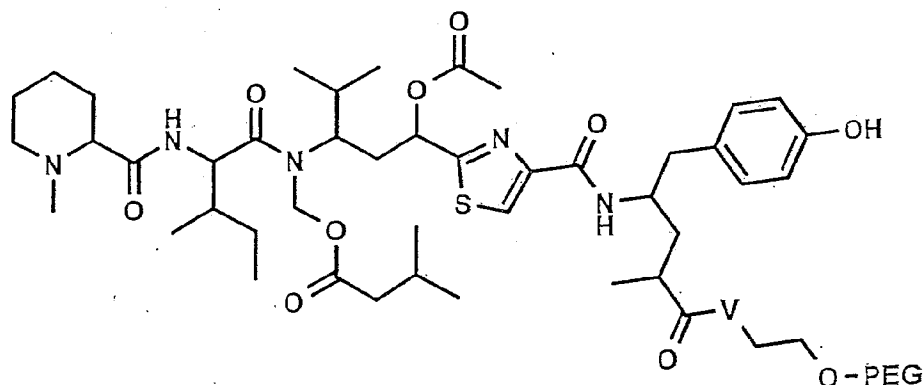
The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-11. (Canceled)

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a patient suffering from breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, colorectal cancer or non-small cell lung cancer, comprising administering to the patient one or more compounds of claim 23.

Claim 13. (Canceled)

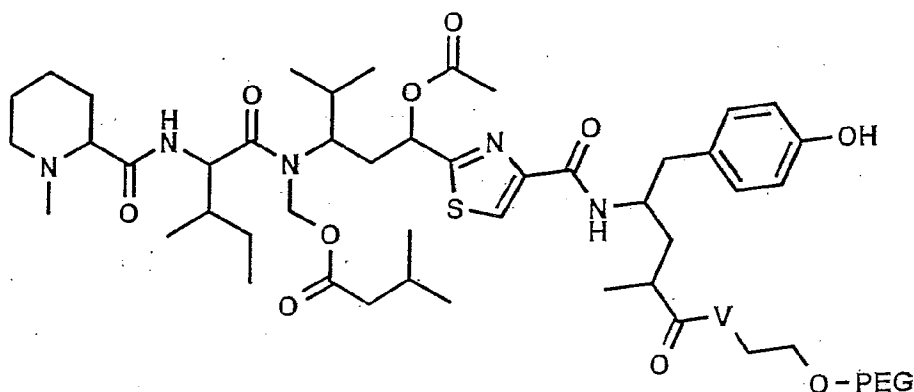
Claim 14. (Previously Presented) A compound of claim 23 having the following formula:



wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula  $-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$  where  $R^a$  and  $R^b$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2;  $-NH-R^c-NH-CO-CH_2-O-$ ;  $-O-R^c-O-CH_2-O-$ ; or a group of the formula  $-O-R^c-O-$  where  $R^c$  is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 14 wherein V is oxygen.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein a compound having the following formula is administered:



wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula

$-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$  where  $R^a$  and  $R^b$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2;  $-NH-R^c-NH-CO-CH_2-O-$ ;  $-O-R^c-O-CH_2-O-$ ; or a group of the formula  $-O-R^c-O-$  where  $R^c$  is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is oxygen.

Claim 18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is a NH group

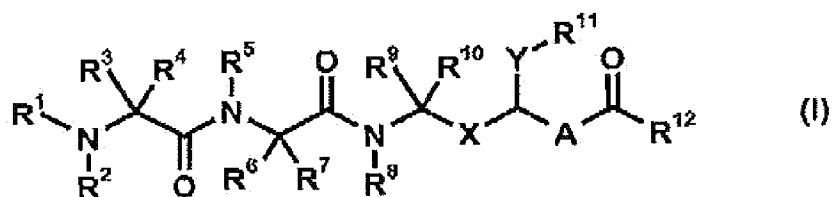
Claim 19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is a group of the formula  $-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$ .

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein V is an oxygen atom; a NH group; a group of the formula  $-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$  where  $R^a$  and  $R^b$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl groups or together part of cycloalkyl group and n is 1 or 2;  $-NH-R^c-NH-CO-CH_2-O-$ ;  $-O-R^c-O-CH_2-O-$ ; or a group of the formula  $-O-R^c-O-$  where  $R^c$  is alkylene, arylene or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 , wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of 30kDa.

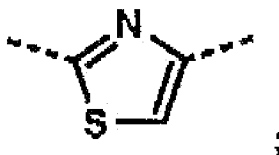
Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 , wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of 35kDa.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) A compound in the general formula U-V-W, wherein U refers to the Formula (I),



wherein

A has the following structure



X is  $CH_2$ ;

Y is an oxygen atom;

$R^1$  and  $R^3$  together are of the formula  $-(CH_2)_4-$ ;

$R^2$  is a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl group;

$R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ , and  $R^{10}$  are hydrogen atoms;

$R^7$  is an alkyl group;

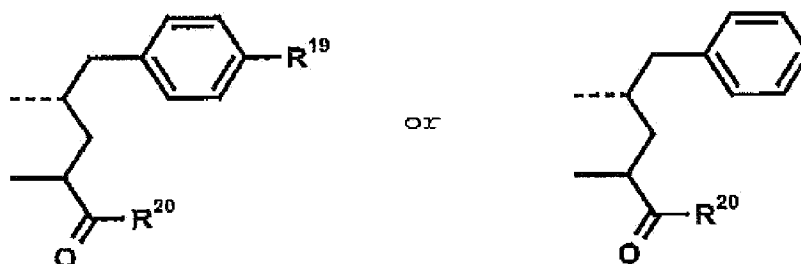
$R^8$  is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl, alkenyl, or a heteroalkyl group

$R^9$  is an alkyl group;

$R^{11}$  is an acetyl group;

$R^{12}$  is a group of formula  $NHR^{18}$ ;

$R^{18}$  has the following structures:



wherein  $R^{19}$  is H or OH and  $R^{20}$  is -V-W or

wherein  $R^{19}$  is -V-W and  $R^{20}$  is OH,  $NH_2$ , or a heteroalkyl group;

V is an oxygen atom, a NH group, or a heteroalkylene group

wherein the heteroatoms are selected from O, S, and N; and

W is ~~a polymer comprising a polythelene glycol (PEG)~~  
polyethylene glycol (PEG) or a cyclodextrin comprising  
polyethylene glycol (PEG).

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein  $R^2$  is a methyl group.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein  $R^7$  is a group of formula  $-CH(CH_3)CH_2CH_3$ .

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein  $R^8$  is a hydrogen atom or a group of formula  $-CH_2OC(=O)R^{17}$ , wherein  $R^{17}$  is a  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl or a  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl group.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein  $R^9$  is a group of formula  $-CH(CH_3)_2$ .

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein V is an oxygen atom, a NH group, or a group of the formula  $-O-(CR^aR^b)_n-O-$ , whereby  $R^a$  and  $R^b$  independently from each other are  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl groups, or, together, are part of a cycloalkyl

group and n is 1 or 2;  $\text{-NH-R}^c\text{-NH-CO-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ ,  $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-CO-CH}_2\text{-O-}$ , or a group of formula  $\text{-O-R}^c\text{-O-}$ , whereby  $\text{R}^c$  is an alkylene, arylene, or a cycloalkylene group.

Claim 29. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the compound of Formula (I) is Tubulysin A.

Claim 30. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the polymer is a polyethylene glycol (PEG).

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) A compound, according to Claim 23, wherein the polyethylene glycol has a molecular weight of more than 30 kDa to 100 kDa.